

**CHAPTER NO. 658**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3228**

**By Representatives Odom, Harrison, Davis, Hill, Crider, Mumpower, Favors**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3270**

**By Senators Crowe, Ramsey, Harper**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 23, Part 1, relative to social workers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-23-102, is amended by adding the following new subsections thereto:

(d) The board shall establish regulations for the issuance of temporary certificates for master social workers who hold the degree of master in social work or doctor in social work granted by any college, university, or school of social work which has applied for, but has not yet received, accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education. This practice activity shall be applicable towards meeting the provisions and requirements of § 63-23-103(b).

(e) Any social worker whose master or doctoral degree was awarded after April 2005 may commence practice; provided, that such social worker applies for temporary certification within ninety (90) days after the rules promulgated pursuant to subsection (d) become effective. This practice activity shall be applicable towards meeting the provisions and requirements of § 63-23-103(b).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-23-103(b), is amended in the first sentence by deleting the language "A duly certified master social worker" and by substituting instead the language "A duly certified or temporarily certified master social worker".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-23-103, is amended by adding a new subsection thereto, as follows:

(e) No temporarily certified social worker may be approved for independent practice until the program from which such social worker graduated has achieved accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: May 1, 2006**

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

**APPROVED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2006**

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR